

In the Claims

The status of claims in the case is as follows:

1 1. [Original] A method for identifying duplicate records
2 among multiple systems, comprising the steps of:

3 loading first records having an index number into a
4 database during a first predetermined time period;

5 for each record having said index number, searching
6 said database for another record, loaded during a
7 second earlier time period, having the same index
8 number and replacing said another record, if found,
9 with said first record;

10 comparing each first record for which no matching index
11 number record was found with all other first records
12 for which no matching index number record was found;

13 comparing each of said first records for which no
14 matching index number record was found with all the
15 other records including the replaced records in said
16 database;

17 generating reports of the comparing steps, the reports
18 listing records which compared; and

19 eliminating from said database said first records
20 deemed to have compared.

1 2. [Original] The method of claim 1, said records being
2 invoice records.

1 3. [Original] A method for providing a report that can be
2 used to evaluate two or more invoiced documents for further
3 investigation of possible duplicate invoicing, comprising
4 the steps of:

5 maintaining a compact database by removing canceled
6 invoice documents and invoice documents older than a
7 predetermined period;

8 extracting data from said compact database by matching
9 on suppliers invoice indicia, name, date and amount;
10 and

11 producing said report from said data.

1 4. [Original] The method of claim 3, further comprising
2 the step of:

3 entering invoice data to said compact database from a
4 plurality of accounts payable systems.

1 5. [Original] The method of claim 3, further comprising
2 the steps of:

3 first entering said invoices into said compact database
4 for payment at a later date; and

5 checking said compact database for duplicate invoices
6 before said later date.

1 6. [Original] The method of claim 3, further comprising
2 the step responsive to submission of an invoice with a null
3 invoice indicia field of entering date indicia in said null
4 invoice indicia field.

1 7. [Currently amended] Method for capturing packets of
2 possible duplicate invoices for duplicate invoice analysis,
3 comprising the steps of:

4 maintaining a collection of current invoices that have
5 not yet been paid;

6 maintaining a collection of history invoices that have
7 been paid; [[and]]

8 generating from said current invoices and said history
9 invoices a packet of invoices exhibiting a same
10 behavior, said packet including at least one invoice
11 from said collection of current invoices; and

12 generating from a plurality of said packets a first
13 report of invoices having same invoice numbers and
14 vendor numbers, a second report of invoices having
15 similar vendor names and same invoice amounts; a third
16 report of invoices having similar invoice dates and
17 invoice amounts differing only on flagged or flagged
18 conditions; a fourth report of invoices having same
19 invoice amounts and invoice numbers but not same date
20 and vendor name; a fifth report of invoices having same
21 invoice numbers and vendor names but not same vendor
22 number and invoice amount; and a sixth report of
23 invoices having same invoice numbers, vendor name and
24 invoice amounts, irrespective of invoice date.

25 8. [Original] The method of claim 7, each invoice
26 comprising a record including vendor identifier indicia,
27 vendor record indicia, date indicia, and amount indicia.

1 9. [Original] The method of claim 8, each said record
2 including a vendor record indicia field, a data indicia
3 field, and an amount indicia field.

1 10. [Original] The method of claim 9, further comprising
2 the steps of:

3 flagging said invoices in said packet against each
4 other with respect to expert criteria;

5 dropping from said packet unflagged invoices; and

6 discarding remaining packets having no current
7 invoices.

1 11. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising
2 the step of flagging record pairs having transposed digits
3 in said vendor record indicia fields.

1 12. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising

2 the step responsive to receiving an invoice with null vendor
3 record indicia field of entering date indicia as date-like
4 indicia to said vendor record indicia field.

1 13. [Original] The method of claim 12, further comprising
2 the step of flagging invoice pairs having a same vendor
3 identifier indicia and date-like indicia in said vendor
4 indicia field.

1 14. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising
2 the step of flagging invoice pairs having matching vendor
3 record indicia.

1 15. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising
2 the step of flagging invoice pairs having, for matching
3 vendor identification indicia, matching vendor record
4 indicia except for a prefix or suffix character.

1 16. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising
2 the step of flagging invoice pairs, for matching vendor
3 identification indicia, having vendor record indicia of
4 different lengths.

1 17. [Original] The method of claim 10, further comprising

2 the step of flagging invoice pairs matching on said vendor
3 record indicia while ignoring embedded blanks.

1 18. [Original] The method of claim 12, further comprising
2 the steps of:

3 flagging invoice pairs having transposed digits in said
4 vendor record indicia fields;

5 flagging invoice pairs having a same vendor identifier
6 indicia and date-like indicia in said vendor indicia
7 field;

8 flagging invoice pairs having matching vendor record
9 indicia;

10 flagging invoice pairs having, for matching vendor
11 identification indicia, matching vendor record indicia
12 except for a prefix or suffix character;

13 flagging invoice pairs, for matching vendor
14 identification indicia, having vendor record indicia of
15 different lengths; and

16 flagging invoice pairs matching on said vendor record
17 indicia while ignoring embedded blanks.

1 19. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising
2 the step of forcing all said invoices to be current.

1 20. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising
2 the step of capturing packets having same vendor and invoice
3 numbers.

1 21. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising
2 the step of capturing packets having similar vendor names
3 and same invoice amount.

1 22. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising
2 the step of capturing packets having similar invoice dates
3 and amounts, differing only on flagged conditions.

1 23. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising
2 the step of capturing packets having same invoice amount and
3 numbers but not same date and vendor name.

1 24. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising
2 the step of capturing packets having same invoice number and

3 vendor name but not same vendor number and invoice amount.

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1 25. [Original] The method of claim 7, further comprising
2 the step of capturing packets having the same vendor number
3 and same invoice number and amount, irrespective of invoice
4 date.

1 26. [Original] A program storage device readable by a
2 machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for
4 identifying duplicate records among multiple systems, said
5 method steps comprising:

6 loading first records having an index number into a
7 database during a first predetermined time period;

8 for each record having said index number, searching
9 said database for another record, loaded during a
10 second earlier time period, having the same index
11 number and replacing said another record, if found,
12 with said first record;

13 comparing each first record for which no matching index
14 number record was found with all other first records

15 for which no matching index number invoice was found;

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16 comparing each of said first invoices for which no
17 matching index number record was found with all the
18 other records including the replaced records in said
19 database;

20 generating reports of the comparing steps, the reports
21 listing records which compared; and

22 eliminating from said database said first records
23 deemed to have compared.

1 27. [Original] A program storage device readable by a
2 machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for
4 providing a report that can be used to evaluate two or more
5 invoiced documents for further investigation of possible
6 duplicate invoicing, said method steps comprising:

7 maintaining a compact database by removing canceled
8 invoice documents and invoice documents older than a
9 predetermined period;

10 extracting data from said compact database by matching
11 on suppliers invoice indicia, name, date and amount;
12 and

13 producing said report from said data.

1 28. [Original] A program storage device readable by a
2 machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions
3 executable by a machine to perform method steps for
4 capturing packets of possible duplicate invoices for
5 duplicate invoice analysis, said method steps comprising:

6 maintaining a collection of current invoices that have
7 not yet been paid;

8 maintaining a collection of history invoices that have
9 been paid; and

10 generating from said current invoices and said history
11 invoices a packet of invoices exhibiting a same
12 behavior, said packet including at least one invoice
13 from said collection of current invoices.

1 29. [Currently amended] A system for capturing packets of

2 possible duplicate invoices for duplicate invoice analysis,
3 comprising:

4 a current file of invoices that have not yet been paid;

5 a history file of invoices that have been paid; and ,

6 a packet of invoices generated from said current file
7 and said history files for storing invoices exhibiting
8 a same behavior, said packet including at least one
9 invoice from said of current file[.] and

10 a plurality of reports generated from a plurality of
11 said packets including a first report of invoices
12 having same invoice numbers and vendor numbers, a
13 second report of invoices having similar vendor names
14 and same invoice amounts; a third report of invoices
15 having similar invoice dates and invoice amounts
16 differing only on flagged on flagged conditions; a
17 fourth report of invoices having same invoice amounts
18 and invoice numbers but not same date and vendor name;
19 a fifth report of invoices having same invoice numbers
20 and vendor names but not same vendor number and invoice
21 amount; and a sixth report of invoices having same

22 invoice numbers, vendor name and invoice amounts,
23 irrespective of invoice date.

24 30. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet
25 containing invoices having same vendor and invoice numbers.

1 31. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet
2 containing invoices having similar vendor names and same
3 invoice amount.

1 32. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet
2 containing invoices having similar invoice dates and
3 amounts, differing only on flagged conditions.

1 33. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet
2 containing invoices having same invoice amount and numbers
3 but not same date and vendor name.

1 34. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet
2 containing invoices having same invoice number and vendor
3 name but not same vendor number and invoice amount.

1 35. [Original] The system of claim 29, said packet
2 containing invoices having the same vendor number and same

3 invoice number and amount, irrespective of invoice date.

1 36. [Original] A computer program product or computer
2 program element

3 for identifying duplicate records among multiple systems
4 according to method steps comprising:

5 loading first records having an index number into a
6 database during a first predetermined time period;

7 for each record having said index number, searching
8 said database for another record, loaded during a
9 second earlier time period, having the same index
10 number and replacing said another record, if found,
11 with said first record;

12 comparing each first record for which no matching index
13 number record was found with all other first records
14 for which no matching index number invoice was found;

15 comparing each of said first invoices for which no
16 matching index number record was found with all the
17 other records including the replaced records in said
18 database;

19 generating reports of the comparing steps, the reports
20 listing records which compared; and

21 eliminating from said database said first records
22 deemed to have compared.

1 37. [Original] A computer program product or computer
2 program element for capturing packets of possible duplicate
3 invoices for duplicate invoice analysis according to method
4 steps comprising:

5 maintaining a collection of current invoices that have
6 not yet been paid;

7 maintaining a collection of history invoices that have
8 been paid; and

9 generating from said current invoices and said history
10 invoices a packet of invoices exhibiting a same
11 behavior, said packet including at least one invoice
12 from said collection of current invoices.